

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested prior to further examination on the merits.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-77 were originally pending in this application among which claims 8 and 22-77 have been withdrawn from consideration, i.e., claims 1-7 and 9-21 are currently pending. Claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 are independent. By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 are amended. Also, dependent claims 11 and 15 are amended. No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 9-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,502,484 to Okada ("Okada") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,210,563 to Hamada et al. ("Hamada"), and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,992,855 to Takei ("Takei").

Hamada discloses a camera having a function of correcting the blurring of camera caused by the camera-shake. Hamada's camera, however, which is an optical camera that uses an optical lens and film for photographing, uses a correcting lens LC (i.e., an optical lens) to correct the blurring of the camera. This is illustrated, for example, by Fig. 7 and col. 7, lines 11-29 of Hamada.

In contrast, claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 are at least directed to a shake correction in a camera using an image sensing device such as charge couple device (CCD). As a result, the shake correction of the present invention is electronically performed without using a correction lens.

For example, the shake correction is applied to the sensed image data by changing a read position of the sensed image data at an image sensing device. See, for example, page 10, line 15 through page 11, line 25, along with Fig. 4 of the original specification.

Nonetheless, independent claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 have been amended for further clarification. In particular, claim 1 as amended specifically recites that the shake correction is performed by changing the read position of the sensed image data at an image sensing device. Amended claim 1 further specifies that the one field period defines an accumulation time period of the image sensing device. Each of other independent claims (i.e., claims 10, 14 and 20) has been amended in a similar fashion.

Takei, disclosing an image pickup apparatus with white balance control, also fails to show or suggest at least the feature of the claims as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant believes that each of independent claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 as amended is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited references (i.e., Okada, Hamada and Takei), either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicant has not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicant submits that the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicant however reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is

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respectfully requested.

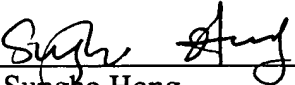
AUTHORIZATION

No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4510). **A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.**

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: March 17, 2004

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